

**METHODS AND SYSTEMS TO SUBSTANTIALLY PREVENT
FRAUDULENT USE OF A WIRELESS UNIT
ROAMING IN A VISITED SYSTEM**

ABSTRACT

Methods, systems, and apparatus that substantially prevent the fraudulent use of wireless units roaming in visited systems. A visited mobile switching center (MSC-V) registers a wireless unit that is roaming in the visited system, but denies originating communication service to the unit. To make a call, the unit provides a code and identification information. The MSC-V routes the code and identification information to a verification entity. The entity determines whether the wireless unit is a verified or authentic unit. If the wireless unit is a verified unit, the verification entity responds positively to the MSC-V. Based on the verification, the MSC-V removes the denial of originating communication service from the wireless unit. Advantageously, the home system need not be consulted by the MSC-V with respect to the authenticity of the wireless unit.

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